

GLOSSARY

critical habitat	Areas which are essential to the conservation of an officially-listed endangered or threatened species and which may require special management considerations or protection.
crustacean	Invertebrates of the phylum Arthropoda, including shrimps, crabs, copepods, barnacles, and other animals which have segmented bodies, jointed legs, and hard external shells.
cultch	A hard substrate, such as oyster shells, on which larval oysters ("spat") attach and mature.
database	A collection of data arranged for ease and speed of retrieval.
dinoflagellate	Minute organisms, chiefly marine protozoans of the class Dinoflagellata. Dinoflagellates usually have two flagella and an outer envelope of cellulose. These organisms are one of the main constituents of plankton.
dioxin	A chemical by-product of the paper bleaching process.
dissolved oxygen (DO)	Oxygen available to organisms and chemical processes in an aquatic environment.
easement	A voluntary, legally binding agreement in which the land owner sells or donates some or all of her or his rights to develop or use the land.
ecotourism	Maintaining and preserving natural resources as a basis for promoting economic growth and development in vital natural areas.
eelgrass (<i>Zostera marina</i>)	A type of submerged aquatic vegetation. Eelgrass is a flowering marine plant that grows on intertidal and shallow subtidal sand or mudflats.